



100 430 .051002

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(Original, Design, National Stage of PCT, Divisional, Continuation or C-I-P Application)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

PROCESS AND MACHINE FOR MERGING ORDERED BATCHES OF OBJECTS, IN PARTICULAR BATCHES OF MAIL ITEMS

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☐ original
- ☐ design
- ☒ national stage of PCT/EP00/10502.
- ☐ divisional
- ☐ continuation
- ☐ continuation-in-part (C-I-P)

the specification of which: *(complete (a), (b), or (c))*

- (a) ☐ is attached hereto.
- (b) ☒ was filed on 1/14/02 as Application Serial No. 10/031,430 and was amended on *(if applicable)*.
- (c) ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. _____ filed _____ on _____ and was amended on *(if applicable)*.

Acknowledgment of Review of Papers and Duty of Candor

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement.
37 CFR 1.98.

Priority Claim

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed

(complete (d) or (e))

- (d) ☐ no such applications have been filed.
(e) ☒ such applications have been filed as follows:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION				
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION				
France	N 99 13 362	October 26, 1999		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Claim for Benefit of Prior U.S. Provisional Application(s)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Provisional Application Number	Filing Date

Claim for Benefit of Earlier U.S./PCT Application(s) under 35 U.S.C. 120

(complete this part only if this is a divisional, continuation or C-I-P application)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PCT/EP00/10502October 25, 2000pending

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

Power of Attorney

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint Gerald Levy, Reg. No. 24,419; Ronald E. Brown, Reg. No. 32,200; Marta E. Delsignore, Reg. No. 32,689; John Gulbin, Reg. No. 33,189; Lindsay Adams, Reg. No. 36,425; and Michael P. Stanley, Reg. No. 47,108, of the firm of Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch, with offices at 685 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10117-4024, as attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: <u>Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch</u> <u>685 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017</u>	DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: <u>Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch</u> <u>(212) 297-5800</u>
---	--

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

100	FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR	LAST NAME Gillet	FIRST NAME Francois	MIDDLE NAME	
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Lyon <i>FRX</i>	STATE or FOREIGN COUNTRY France	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP France	
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 120 bis, rue du Commandant Charcot	CITY Lyon	STATE or COUNTRY France	ZIP CODE F-69005
	DATE 18.04.02	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR <i>[Signature]</i>			
200	FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY	LAST NAME Forella	FIRST NAME Guy	MIDDLE NAME	
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Saint Peray <i>FRX</i>	STATE or FOREIGN COUNTRY France	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP France	
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Les Champs	CITY Saint Peray	STATE or COUNTRY France	ZIP CODE F-07130
	DATE 22.4.02	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR <i>[Signature]</i>			
	FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE or FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE or COUNTRY	ZIP CODE
	DATE	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR			
	FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE or FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE or COUNTRY	ZIP CODE
	DATE	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR			
	FULL NAME OF SIXTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE or FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE or COUNTRY	ZIP CODE
	DATE	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR			

Check proper box(es) for any added page(s) forming a part of this declaration

- ☐ Signature for ninth and subsequent joint inventors. Number of pages added _____.
- ☐ Signature by administrator(trix), executor(trix) or legal representative for deceased or incapacitated inventor. Number of pages added _____.
- ☐ Signature for inventor who refuses to sign, or cannot be reached, by person authorized under 37 CFR 1.47. Number of pages added _____.